

REGION IX, MAINLAND REGIONAL RESPONSE TEAM

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MEETING SUMMARY

CAMARILLO, CALIFORNIA

17-18 MAY 2000

I. General Information:

The Region IX, Mainland Regional Response Team (MRRT) Meeting was held at the Minerals Management Service, Office of Field Operations, 770 Paseo Camarillo, Camarillo, California and was Co-chaired by the U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

II. Welcome and Introductions:

The general membership meeting was called to order on Wednesday, 17 May 2000 at 1330 by the MRRT Co-chairs CAPT Frank Whipple and Mr. Michael Feeley. All attendees and observers were then introduced and welcomed. During his opening remarks, CAPT Whipple announced that the first day of this MRRT meeting would focus on RRT Subcommittee reports since all four had convened prior to the general membership session.

III. Agenda Items:

The general membership session began with a report from the Alternative Response Technology (ART) Subcommittee by Captain Frank Whipple. Captain Whipple stated that this Subcommittee was chartered last year and was reviewing the process for the use of Alternative Response Technology in federal waters off the coast of California. Mr. Ray Bransfield gave a briefing on the Endangered Species Consultation and spoke of when Section 7 applies. LT Robert Sánchez then gave a Communications Subcommittee Report in which he introduced a new web based product that the Subcommittee is looking at utilizing as its primary means of communication. Mr. Marc Mullen then gave a presentation on this product called PIER (Public Information Emergency Response). During his presentation, Mr. Mullen showed the general membership how to navigate through the website and how members can obtain information from it. Mr. Michael Feeley then gave a Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) Incidents Subcommittee Report and discussed some of the lessons learned from the Wesley Tire Fire and some of the roles that the RRT could have played during this incident. The afternoon ended with a presentation from Mr. Craig Ogawa regarding the Minerals Management Service operations in Camarillo. The first day's meeting then concluded with general announcements from the Co-chairs.

The second day's meeting began with a presentation from Mr. Dan Shane regarding the Wesley Tire Fire. This fire started on 22 September 1999 as a result of a lightning strike in the Filbin tire

pile located in a canyon on the east coast of the Coastal Mountain range. The tire dump contained an estimated seven million scrap tires piled on steep slopes of the canyon. The fire spread quickly and engulfed most of the tire pile areas. The tremendous smoke plume from the tire fire impacted nearby farming communities and caused widespread concern of potential health affects from exposure to smoke emissions. The tire fire also produced large volumes of pyrolitic oil that flowed off the slope and into the drainage of an intermittent stream. It took 28 days to extinguish the fire and over 250,000 gallons of pyrolitic oil were recovered. The total EPA response cost was about \$3.5 million. Mr. Bill Robberson then gave an Inland Area Contingency Plan (IACP) Subcommittee Report. State updates were given by Mr. Dale Anderson (Arizona), Mr. Jim Walker (Nevada), and Ms. Yvonne Addassi (California). The morning session concluded with short updates from Mr. Steve Flynn (Department of Justice), Mr. Dan Strasborg (ATSDR), Ms. Ann Fisher (Department of Agriculture), Mr. Bob Brown (General Services Administration), Mr. Tim Holmes (Coast Guard), Mr. Dave Peck (Clean Bay), Ms. Tessa Badua Larsen (Federal Emergency Management Agency), and Ms. Laurie Smith (California Office of Emergency Services). The meeting was adjourned after general announcements were made by the Co-chairs.